

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/659,538

Examiner

Raj K. Jain

Applicant(s)

MORETTI ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/2/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15, 18-21, 48, 51-62 renumbered 1-32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20070522
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Gerald Maliszewski on May 22, 2007.

Amend claims 1, 5, 7 and 51 as follows:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus coupled to a first network interface, comprising:

a first network interface coupled to a network device on a first network in accordance with a first protocol;

a second network interface to be coupled to a network processor on a second network having a second protocol; and,

a processor coupled to the first network interface and the second network interface, said processor to translate said first protocol to said second protocol,

wherein said apparatus receives network transfers on behalf of the network processor while operating in a first mode, and initiates network transfers on behalf of the network processor while operating in a second mode, wherein said first mode is a target mode and second mode is a initiator mode, and

wherein said apparatus further determines which of said first mode operation and second mode operation to perform based on one or more frame header

fields that includes a protocol field that is used to determine a frame type for frames received by said apparatus.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~said first mode is [[a]] the target mode~~, said apparatus to perform at least one of a target mode read operation and a target mode write operation while in said target mode.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~said second mode is [[an]] the initiator mode~~, said apparatus to perform at least one of an initiator mode read operation and an initiator mode write operation while in said initiator mode.

Claim 51, replace "50" with "48".

Claim 52, replace "49" with "48".

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim 1, is allowed. The prior art discloses a communications system having a first network interface with a first protocol and second network interface with a second

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protocol respectively and the interfaces coupled to a network device where each interface further having a processor to translate the protocols from one to the other as appropriate.

The prior art however fails to disclose or suggest the communications system having a network processor operating in a first mode, and initiates network transfers on behalf of the network processor while operating in a second mode, wherein said first mode is a target mode and second mode is a initiator mode, and wherein said apparatus further determines which of said first mode operation and second mode operation to perform based on one or more frame header fields that includes a protocol field that is used to determine a frame type for frames received by said apparatus.

Claims 48 and 60 are allowed. The prior art discloses a communications system having a first network interface with a first protocol and second network interface with a second protocol respectively and the interfaces coupled to a network device where each interface further having a processor to translate the protocols.

The prior art however fails to disclose or suggest wherein the communications system functions as a target for a network processor and performs a target mode read operation by, providing a command frame to the network processor over the second network interface in accordance with the second protocol, receiving a data frame from the network processor that is sent in response to said command frame, and transmitting, over the first network interface, a payload of the data frame to the network device in accordance with the first protocol.

Claims 61 and 62 are allowed. The prior art discloses a communications system having a first network interface with a first protocol and second network interface with a second protocol respectively and the interfaces coupled to a network device where each interface further having a processor to translate the protocols.

The prior art however fails to disclose or suggest wherein communications system functions as an initiator mode with read and write operations, and performs the initiator mode read operation by, receiving a command frame from the network processor over the second network interface in accordance with the second protocol, said command frame to contain a data request command, transmitting the data request command to the network device in accordance with the first protocol, receiving, from the network device over the first network interface, a data frame in accordance with the first protocol, and terminating said first protocol for said data frame.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raj K. Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-3145. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Raj K. Jain/



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May 23, 2007